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For those wishing to see the quality and color of the above paint we call their attention to the residence of S. L. Brooks, Judge Bennett, Smith French and others painted by Paul Kreft.

Snipes & Kinersly are agents for the above paint for The Dalles, Or.

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Collections made at all points on favorable terms.

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**Mufflers,**  
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### PREPARING FOR WHAT?

Indications Are Very Suggestive, but the War Rumor is Denied.

### THE WAR DEPARTMENT CALM.

The Mexican Revolution is Causing Considerable Anxiety.

### A COWBOY'S IDEA OF FUN.

Supposed to Be Chilian Spies—Portland's Bridge Committee Ahead—Committing Suicide.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Secretary Tracy's office presented a busy scene this morning. Within an hour he saw Senator Allison, chairman of the senate committee on appropriation. Senator Cameron chairman of the committee on naval affairs, Senator Butler, a member of the same committee, Senators Frye and Hale, Chief Constructor Wilson, Chief Engineer Melville, Captain Phillips, who is to command the new cruiser New York, Lieutenant Mason, Executive officer of the same vessel, Commodore Folger, chief of ordnance, Commander Chedwick, and lastly Charles Cramp, ship builder. Notwithstanding this sign of official activity and the reports printed of the unusual work at the navy yard, the officials of the navy department deny that there is the least speck of a war cloud on the diplomatic horizon. Assistant Secretary Tracy said that he had all ready expressed his views as to the navy yard. When asked where the San Francisco was bound he declined to give a definite answer, but when reminded that the last time she went out for "a year's practice" as reported by the department, she had next been heard of at Valparaiso, he said that the vessel had no orders for Chili. The naval officer who should know, when asked if the cruiser was bound for Acapulco, replied that she would not go as far south as Mexico. He also stated that the Baltimore is now possibly north of Panama, on her way to San Francisco.

At the department of state matters moved along in the usual serene fashion, and there is not a trace of war-like excitement. The officials say that nothing has been heard from Minister Egan since the 23rd inst.

At the war department neither acting Secretary Grant nor Major General Schofield had any information, in fact the only sign of warlike preparation visible at the executive departments consisted in an order issued Saturday for the immediate preparation of the new 12 inch gun just completed at the navy yard here for transportation to California together with 4000 pounds of powder and 11,000 shells.

Senor Montt the Chilian minister called at the department of state at noon, he had an interview with Secretary Blaine for half an hour.

### The Mexican Revolution Causing Anxiety.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Acting Secretary Grant said today that he regarded the situation on the Mexican frontier as serious, and that the war department is exerting itself to prevent any further violations of the neutrality laws by Garcia's band of revolutionists. If it is necessary to prevent these men from crossing backwards and forwards between the Mexican and the United States military force under General Stanley's command will be distributed along the north bank of the Rio Grande. It is said at the war department that Garcia's movement is gaining strength.

### A Cow Boy's Idea of Fun.

SAN ANTONIA, Texas, Dec. 28.—Half a dozen cow boys took possession of the south bound passenger train on the International and great Northern railroad last night. They boarded the train at Buda station and their first act was to force a Chicago drummer off the moving train because he wore a red cravat and a high silk hat. They then made a number of young ladies in the pullman coach sing for them. Enforcing all the demands with drawn pistols. They ruled the train for about twenty miles, when they stepped off at the way station.

### Supposed to Be Chilian Spies.

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—A morning paper says: "An officer of General Miles' staff received a telegram late last evening from his brother, a United States sailor, stationed at San Francisco, telling him

of the arrest there yesterday of two foreigners, one a Spaniard and the other a Chilian, who had been there for the past three weeks, and acted in a manner to cause suspicion. They were arrested on the charge of vagrancy, though they are strongly suspected of being Chilian spies.

### The City Won the Suit.

PORTLAND, Dec. 28.—Judge Deady's court this morning rendered a decision in the case of the Rollins investment company against the Portland bridge committee. The question at issue was whether a temporary restraining injunction should be issued preventing the bridge committee from issuing bonds pending the suit. The decision was in favor of the city. The Rollins Investment company was given ten days to file an amended complaint.

### Slow Way of Committing Suicide.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Edward M. Field neither eats or drinks and is growing weaker every day. He passed a restless night, and this morning refused to take breakfast. He complains of pains in the head, but he refuses to touch medicine.

### A Good Deal Short.

WARRENTOWN, Va., Dec. 28.—A statement of the affairs of Rosenberger, Spender & Co., of New Market, Va., bankers, who had branches here and in two other towns, places their combined shortage at \$100,000.

### Six Men Saved.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—The steamer Arago arrived from Coos Bay this morning, with Captain Marshall and five of the crew of the wrecked steamer, Maggie Ross.

### Diphtheria in a Dreadful Form.

CASS CITY, Mich., Dec. 26.—Diphtheria is raging here in a dreadful form. Twenty deaths have occurred this week. In the house of Fred Assten today the father, mother and two daughters were found dead. They had not been seen for several days, and when the neighbors investigated this afternoon the whole family were dead.

### Tortured by Thieves.

STOCKTON, Cal., Dec. 27.—News was received at the sheriff's office here today that two men went to the house of Vincent Glann, a farmer, near Newhope, on Christmas eve, at about 8 o'clock, bound him and tortured him until 3 o'clock in the morning in an effort to make him tell where his money was. They got \$80 that he had in his pocket.

### The War Against Christians.

TEHRAN, Dec. 26.—The priests still maintain their interdiction against the use of tobacco, and the people obey them implicitly. A dangerous feature of the matter is the attitude taken against Christians. The walls of the city are placarded with appeals to the Moslems calling upon them to unite forces and exterminate Christians.

### A Close Inspection Ordered.

ROME, Dec. 26.—The Osservatore Romano says that strict instructions have been issued by the government to the effect that pork imported from the United States henceforth be carefully inspected, owing to the fact that some of the meat has been found to be infected with trichina.

### Pacific Coast Failures.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26.—The Bradstreet mercantile agency reports twenty-four failures in the Pacific coast states and territories of the week ended today, as compared with twenty-one for the previous week, and seventeen for the corresponding week of 1890.

### Will Contest a Seat.

PARIS, Dec. 26.—According to Figaro the conservatives of Brest have chosen the archbishop of Aix, who was recently fined for seditious conduct to contest the seat in the chamber just left vacant by the death of Bishop Frebber.

### Chicago Wheat Market.

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Close, wheat, easy; cash, January, .90; May, .95½.

### Weather Forecast.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—Forecast for Washington and Oregon; Rain.

The seventh annual meeting of the Oregon State Horticultural society will be held in Portland, Tuesday and Wednesday, January 13 and 14. An interesting programme has been prepared. E. W. Hammond, of Wimer, will discourse on "The Forest in Its Relation to Horticulture."

A large number of counterfeit half dollars are in circulation in Washington county, Oregon, especially in the neighborhood of Glence, one merchant there having taken in as many as six in a day. The counterfeits are a very poor imitation, having a slick, greasy feeling, being of light weight, and having no "ring" yet it seems that they are good enough to deceive a great many. It is thought the counterfeits are made in this neighborhood.

### WILL SOON SETTLE.

The Chilian Trouble to be Brought to a Conclusion.

### A STRICT ACCOUNT DEMANDED.

The Manner of Settlement Lies Wholly With Chili.

### THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC STRIKE.

A Train Robber Captured—The Russian Wheat Crop—Two Englishmen Fined.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—The early settlement of the existing difficulties with Chili is confidently expected by officials here. What the nature of the settlement will be depends entirely upon the government of Chili. The policy of waiting adopted by this government for the reason that the difficulties that led to the present condition of things occurred under the administration of the provisional junta or government in Chili which might not present in any degree the belief of the people when the matters are fairly put before them, but it has never been proposed or conceived even, that Chili would not be held to a strict accountability for the unfortunate and wanton attacks by the Valparaiso mob upon the Baltimore's men, resulting in the death of two of them. That will be vigorously pressed at the proper time and in a proper way. The time has now arrived. Today the provisional government gives way to the new government under President Montt, elected since the fall of Balmaceda and the success of the congressionalists. It has been hoped by President Harrison and Secretary Blaine that in the new cabinet minister of foreign affairs might be found a man who would not reflect views of the radical element in the country, which is evidently bent on refusing to make suitable reparation for the attacks upon the Baltimore's sailors and subsequent indignities heaped upon Minister Egan and occupants of the United States legation. This hope has been encouraged by the expressions of Minister Montt, who, in all his communications with the state department, has given assurances of the pacific intention of the Chilian government.

### The Southern Pacific Strike.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26.—Acting Chief Ramsey, of the order of railway telegraphers, says the continuance of hostile methods depends entirely upon the action of the Southern Pacific people. He plans to have a talk with them soon. Assistant General Superintendent Pratt said today that no appointment for a conference had yet been made. He said further that everything on the system is going on as usual, and no prolonged difficulty with telegraphers or train men is anticipated.

### A Train Robber Captured.

FRESNO, Cal., Dec. 26.—A skirmish occurred Thursday afternoon in the mountains south of here between Sheriff Hensley and Deputy Sheriff McArdie and Gratton Dalton and Riley Dean, escaped train-robbers. Dean was surprised in the mountains on the way to his hiding place and compelled to surrender without a shot. Dalton, however, discovered the officers, and a couple of shots were exchanged, after which Dalton escaped.

### The Russian Wheat Crop.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 26.—The ministry has issued a report regarding the condition of winter wheat recently sown. According to this report the condition is satisfactory in all the Russian provinces in central Asia, including many of the famine-stricken districts. In Northern Russia and in the Crimea the crop is in medium condition, while in southern Russia it is unsatisfactory.

### Two Englishmen Fined.

ST. ETIENNE, Dec. 26.—John Cooper and Walter Beldnell, two Englishmen arrested in November for offering to bribe the workmen of the arms factory here to procure samples of the new French and Russian carbines, have been convicted. Cooper was sentenced to fifteen months' imprisonment and a fine of \$900, and Beldnell to two months' imprisonment and a fine of \$200.

### The New Orleans Affair.

ROME, Dec. 26.—According to the *Voce Certia*, in this city, the negotiations of Rudini with the government at Washington have progressed so far that the Italian government is about to appoint a successor to Baron Fava, minister to the United States. It is understood that a satisfactory settlement of the New Orleans matter is now assured.